

REMARKS

In the Office Action mailed June 20, 2006, a restriction requirement was stated under 35 U.S.C. 121 and the claims were divided into 35 groups. Applicants respectfully traverse the restriction requirement and make a provisional election under 37 C.F.R. 1.143.

Applicants believe that inventions described as within Group I (Groups IA-IF) are related and not distinct as they overlap in scope. For example, all of the allegedly distinct inventions involve synthetic protein copolymers that can demonstrate similar function and effect. Furthermore, there would not be an undue burden on the Patent Office if these inventions, which are described as linked, were considered together. Therefore Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the requirement.

With this response, the specification is amended to acknowledge U.S. federal government support.

Amendments to the Claims

Applicants note that the claims are not amended herein.

Election

Applicants hereby provisionally elect claims 6 and 7 in connection with Group I, Subgroup D, SEQ ID NO:12 for the first endblock sequence, and SEQ ID NO:18 for the middle block sequence.

Request for Extension of Time

It is believed fees for four months extension of time are due in the amount of \$795.00; and the undersigned hereby authorizes that such amount be deducted from deposit account 07-1969 if the fee is not paid otherwise via EFS-Web. If this amount is incorrect, please credit any overpayment or deduct the appropriate fee, including the fee for any extensions of time required, from Deposit Account 07-1969.

Respectfully submitted,

/sjpennerREG54371/

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